
**TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP
of the
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**

**July 26, 2011
Minutes**

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF THE MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP. A DIGITAL RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN SCAG'S OFFICE.

The Meeting of the Transportation Conformity Working Group was held at the SCAG office in Los Angeles.

In Attendance:

Abrishami, Lori
Sherwood, Arnie

Metro
Systematics

SCAG

Asuncion, John
Kuo, Ryan
Luo, Rongsheng
Sangkapichai, Mana

Via Teleconference:

Brady, Mike
Cacatian, Ben
Cassmassi, Joe
Chu, Philip
Crow, Jason
Drummonds, Eyvonne
Estrella, Romeo
Gallo, Ilene
Krebs, Cindy
O'Connor, Karina
Walecka, Carla
Yoon, Andrew

Caltrans Headquarters
VCAPCD
SCAQMD
SANBAG
ARB
SCAQMD
Caltrans, District 12
Caltrans, District 11
OCTA
EPA, Region 9
TCA
Caltrans, District 7

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1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Lori Abrishami, Metro, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no comments.

3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

3.1 Approval Item

3.1.1 TCWG June 28, 2011 Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved.

4.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

4.1 Review of PM Hot Spot Interagency Review Forms

1) LALS 28850

It was determined that this is not a POAQC
(FHWA concurrence received via email on July 27, 2011)

4.2 Review of PM Hot Spot Qualitative Analyses

1) Revised LA000548_LA0B875

Analysis reaffirmed acceptable for NEPA circulation
(Concurrence received via email before the meeting)

4.3 FTIP Update

John Asuncion, SCAG, reported the following:

- 2011 FTIP Amendment #8 had received federal approval early this month.
- All 2011 FTIP Amendments through #9 had received all the necessary approvals.

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- The public review period for Amendment #10 ended on July 14 and the Amendment was waiting for state and federal approvals.
- Administration Modification #11 was under analysis by SCAG staff and would be submitted to Caltrans for approval by the end of this week.
- SCAG staff is currently developing the 2013 FTIP Guidelines and expected to distribute the guidelines to CTCs for comments in next couple of weeks. It will be brought to the TCWG at next month's meeting.

In response to a question, Mr. Asuncion stated that the FTIP Consistency Amendment is due to SCAG on September 12. The Amendment is expected to be adopted by SCAG Regional Council in April 2012 and approved by FHWA/FTA in May or June 2012, same as the 2012 RTP. After some discussion, it was confirmed that all FTIP Amendments that have received approvals before December 2011 will be included in the 2012 RTP.

4.4 RTP Update

Ryan Kuo, SCAG, reported the following:

- The 2012 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and High-Speed Rail (HSR) Subcommittees were formed under the Transportation Committee. The RTP Subcommittee will help guide the development of the 2012 RTP. The HSR Subcommittee will coordinate HSR related issues directly with the RTP Subcommittee to gain efficiency in decision making. The roles of these subcommittees are to discuss relevant policy issues in depth and make recommendations on specific policy matters to the Transportation Committee.
- The RTP Subcommittee held its first meeting on July 22, 2011. The RTP Subcommittee meeting will be held at least once a month until the approval of the Final RTP. The HSR Subcommittee would hold its first meeting on July 29, 2011. The subcommittees meetings are open to the public.
- A series of RTP public outreach workshops are scheduled to be held throughout the region. SCAG staff already completed workshops in San Bernardino and Ventura Counties. The Riverside and Imperial County workshops would be held this week. From next week through mid-August, workshops will be held in Los Angeles and Orange Counties. The complete schedule, presentations and materials of the workshops can be found on the SCAG RTP website.

In response to a question, Mr. Kuo stated that the workshops had been quite successful. The workshops were well attended by both the public and local agency staff. SCAG staff had not encountered any major issues so far.

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4.5 EPA Update

Karina O'Connor, EPA, reported the following:

- The Re-proposal of the South Coast PM2.5 SIP and the Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets were published on The Federal Register on July 14, 2011. The comment period will close on August 15.
- There is no specific timeline for the revised 8-hour Ozone standard.
- EPA will hold a training session for the Quantitative PM Hot-Spot Analysis in Sacramento on September 19-21 and expect to hold a second session in Southern California later on.

4.6 ARB Update

Jason Crow, ARB, reported the following:

- The ARB Governing Board took action on the 8-hour Ozone SIP Revision and Technical Corrections to the PM2.5 Conformity Budgets on July 21. The whole package would be submitted to EPA by the end of next week.
- The new EMFAC was expected to be released early next month.

4.7 Air Districts Update

Joe Cassmassi, SCAQMD, reported the following:

- The first AQMP Advisory Group Meeting was held last week. The group discussed many key issues including deadlines for the 24-hour PM2.5 standard, the 8-hour Ozone standard currently under EPA review for revision, and control measure development. The Advisory Group will meet every third Thursday of the month.
- The Scientific, Technical, and Modeling Peer Review Advisory Group Meeting will start at the beginning of September.
- Additional working groups including Stationary Source Control Strategy Working Group and Mobile Source Control Strategy Working Group will review potential control measures that impact the AQMP.

In response to a question, Mr. Cassmassi stated that the District will look at the energy policies and adopted climate and energy related measures for GHG reduction.

- The District continued to work with EPA to address the contingency measures issue on the 2007 PM2.5 SIP:
 - Three proposed approaches: (1) take advantage of current air quality relative to what was projected in the 2007 AQMP; (2) use Ozone plan for backstop;

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and (3) look at all adopted measures since 2007 that were not included in the PM2.5 SIP.

- Timeline: staff expected to get package back to EPA in the next few weeks, pending further questions from EPA. It will then be taken to the board in September or October and expected a fast turnaround from EPA to stop the sanction clock.

In response to a question, Mr. Cassmassi explained that based on the PM2.5 Implementation Guidance, the District is required to achieve 118 tons of NO_x-equivalent emission reduction for 2012-2014 that would also be contingency measures for the attainment of the PM2.5 standard.

5.0 INFORMATION SHARING

Eyvonne Drummonds, SCAQMD, announced that the AB2766 Staff Report will be presented to the Governing Board in September. She encouraged all AB2766 Program Administrators to attend training due to a new submittal cycle and process. The training schedule will be posted on the district website.

Mike Brady, Caltrans Headquarters, announced that the next Statewide Conformity Working Group is expected to be held in October and he will send out a doodle survey on the meeting date and time.

6.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

The next Transportation Conformity Working Group meeting will be held on August 23, 2011 at the SCAG office in Los Angeles.